



ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for transforming a germinating plant seed that is susceptible to transformation with *Agrobacterium*, the method including:

(a) providing an *Agrobacterium* strain capable of transforming the germinating plant seed with a DNA of interest;

(b) providing a wetting agent or surfactant that facilitates or enhances penetration and transformation of the germinating plant seed by the *Agrobacterium* strain; and

(c) contacting the germinating plant seed with the wetting agent or surfactant and the *Agrobacterium* strain with the DNA of interest under conditions effective to cause cells of the plant germinating seed to be transformed with the DNA of interest to form a transformed plant seed, said conditions including a vacuum infiltration of the germinating plant seed while the germinating plant seed is contacting the wetting agent or surfactant and the *Agrobacterium* strain and, optionally, a subsequent incubation of the germinating plant seed with the wetting agent or surfactant and the *Agrobacterium* strain.